

 Shojo Beat Manga

Tail Moon[★] of the



Story by

Rinko Ueda

2

Tail Moon[★] of the

Usagi is the granddaughter of the leader of a prestigious ninja village, but she's such a klutz that she's never made it out of the kiddie class. Frustrated with Usagi's lack of progress, her grandfather sends her to marry Lord Hanzo and have lots of ninja babies. But the lord has no interest in her or her childbearing potential!

Usagi's mission to bear Hanzo's child is not going well. The father of her future babies has no interest in her, and she has a beautiful, brilliant rival. In order to regroup, Usagi goes back to her home village, arriving just in time for the annual Ninja Games—and the prize is a love potion! In order to win the race Usagi agrees to team up with her ex-fiancé Goemon...and then Hanzo drops by the village unannounced! Who will win in this game of love?



2

Story & Art by

**Rinko
Ueda**

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Shojo Beat

Tail Moon[★] of the Moon



2

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**Nobara feels like
she's on the losing
side of love!**



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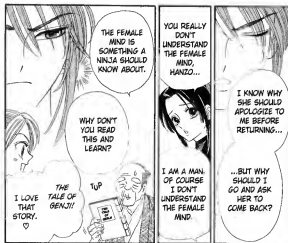
Story Thus Far...

It is the Warring States Era. Usagi, who lives in the ninja village of Hojiro in southern Iga, is a failure as a kunoichi, or female ninja. At the age of 15, she is still unable to qualify as a ninja, so she is suddenly ordered to get married!

The man who has been selected for her is Hattori Hanzo, the most handsome man in all Iga. But after rushing over to meet Hanzo, she is told by Hanzo himself that he has no intention of getting married. Usagi begins to train hard so that Hanzo will accept her. But another prospective bride—Yun—appears, making things much more difficult...

Then Usagi meets Hanzou, a relative of Hanzo's, and his girlfriend Sara. Usagi learns that her Hanzo and Sara were married before... Shocked by the news, Usagi cannot concentrate on her training, and Hanzo tells her to leave his place. A dejected Usagi returns to her village and meets up with Goemon, a childhood friend and...?!





THE
HAPPINESS
OF THE ONE
YOU LOVE...?

THE MOST
IMPORTANT
THING
FOR ME IS THE
HAPPINESS OF
THE ONE I LOVE.

IF I CAN
BRING
HAPPINESS
TO HANZO...

HANZO'S
HAPPINESS...

AND I'LL DO
ANYTHING TO
MAKE HER
HAPPY.

ANYWAY, YOU
DON'T NEED TO
WORRY ABOUT
THAT, USAGI!



MEN DON'T
LIKE OVERLY
AGGRESSIVE
WOMEN.

THAT'S
ONLY
GOING TO
MAKE
THINGS
WORSE.

YOU
REALLY
THINK
SO?

AS I SAID,
YOU NEED
TO FORCE
HIS HAND.

EASY.

MASTER, MEN
NOWADAYS DON'T
THINK THE SAME
WAY THEY DID IN
THE OLD DAYS.

NONSENSE!
NO MAN IN THE
WORLD WOULD
REJECT THE
ADVANCES OF
A WOMAN!

AAAAH!
WHO AM I
SUPPOSED
TO
BELIEVE?

RIDICU-
LOUS!

YOU
MUST BE
FORCEFUL!

MEN ARE
ATTRACTED TO
WOMEN WHO
SEEM TO HAVE
NO INTEREST
IN THEM!

NINJA SKILL CONTEST

GOEMON,
OF
COURSE!
♡

IF YOU WIN
THE LOVE
POTION, WHO
WILL YOU
GIVE IT TO?

WE'RE
GOING
TO
START
THE
CONTEST
NOW.

THE PRIZE
IS A LOVE
POTION?!

YEAH, I'M
GOING TO
WIN!

OH,
GOEMON!

HEY,
ARE YOU
LISTENING
TO ME?

I HOPE YOU
STRIVE HARD
AND MAKE USE
OF EVERY-
THING YOU'VE
LEARNED IN
YOUR DAILY
TRAINING...

I WANT YOU
TO GET THE
LOVE POTION
FOR ME!

ENTER
IT!

I'VE
ALREADY
RETIRED
FROM THE
FRONT LINE.

IS IT TRUE
THAT YOU'RE
NOT ENTERING
THE CONTEST
THIS YEAR?

BUT IF YOU
WIN THIS
YEAR, IT'LL BE
THE TENTH
YEAR IN A
ROW...

GOEMON!

THE COOL
SWORD
HANZO
GAVE
ME...

A
A
A
A
A
H!

I FORGOT IT
BACK IN THE
VILLAGE!

HEY!

YEAH,
SHE IS.

OH, I
FORGOT TO
SHOW YOU
SOMETHING.

ARE YOU
JOINING
IN?

ALL YOU
NEED TO DO
IS BECOME
MY WIFE.

USA, ARE
YOU GOING
TO MARRY
GOEMON?

WE HAVE
THE ANNUAL
NINJA SKILL
CONTEST
TODAY.

HURRY HOME,
NAMEZO.

H-HOW CAN
YOU JUST
GO BACK TO
HANZO'S
VILLAGE...

I'M GOING
BACK TO
GET IT!

THAT'S
A SHAME.
THE PRIZE
THIS YEAR
IS A LOVE
POTION...

OH,
WELL
...

USAGI,
WHY DON'T
YOU ENTER
IT?

OH, THE
CONTEST IS
TODAY?

NO
WAY.

SNARF
SNARF

I'VE
NEVER
BEEN
IN IT
BEFORE.

HANZO'S
SMILE...

HANZO'S
HAPPINESS.

IF I WANT
HANZO, WHOM
I LOVE SO
MUCH, TO BE
HAPPY...

...THE BEST
WAY IS FOR
HIS HOPE OF
LOVE TO
COME TRUE.

SO...

I'LL DO
MY BEST,
HANZO!

I'M GOING
TO GIVE IT TO
HANZO SO HE
CAN USE IT
ON SOMEONE
ELSE.

NO.

NO
WAY.

YOU'RE GOING
TO MAKE
HATTORI
HANZO DRINK
IT, AREN'T
YOU?!

I'M SURE
THAT WOULD
MAKE HANZO
HAPPY.

HUH?!

WHY DON'T
YOU TRY AND
WIN THE PRIZE
YOURSELF?!

RIP

OH, USAGI,
YOU'RE SO
SELFISH.

...ALWAYS
THINK
ABOUT
MYSELF.

I...

IS YOUR
LEG
OKAY,
GOEMON
?

PLD

PLD



◎ GREETINGS! ◎

Hello for
the second
time!
It's Ue-Run
here.

This time I'd
like to share
with you the
profiles of the
various
characters.



By the way,
my birthday is
September
30th.
My blood type
is B, and my
zodiac sign is
Lion.





HA...
HANEZO
...

BYE,
HANZO.

DASH

HOW IS
USAGI
DOING?



SHE'S
DOING
GREAT.

OH, YOU
DON'T
KNOW.

USAGI IS
GOING TO
MARRY
GOEMON.

DON'T
FORGET TO
COME TO THE
WEDDING,
HANZO.



HOW CAN HE KEEP
FLIRTING WITH WOMEN
LIKE THIS?
HE'S JUST LIKE KAMI
NO HANZO!!

Mr-
MASTER
HANZO...

THIS MAN
NAMED
HIKARU
GENJI!!



TROMP
TROMP

I'LL NEVER
ACCEPT SUCH
A MAN.

I CANNOT
LEARN THE
FEMALE MIND
FROM THIS.



COULD
IT BE
USAGI
?!

GLEE

...SUCH
ROWDY
FOOTSTEPS
...

HMM
...

TROMP
TROMP



TROMP
TROMP

I FORGOT
MY SWORD,
SO I CAME
TO GET IT.

HI,
HANZO.

USAGI
!!

IF YOU'VE
COME
BACK, YOU
SHOULD
AT LEAST
GREET ME
FACE-TO-
FACE...

TROMP



HE USED TO BE
THE FASTEST MAN
IN ALL IGA.

HE BROKE
HIS LEG
DURING AN
ASSIGNMENT.

LET ME
THROUGH!

IT'S
OBVIOUS
HE'S
DRAGGING
HIS LEG.

UH-
OH.

GOEMON IS
STILL THE
BEST NINJA
IN IGA!!

IF HE CAN'T
RUN OR JUMP
ANYMORE,
HE'S NO GOOD
AS A NINJA.

GOEMON
!!



THIS IS THE
LAST RACE.
THIS YEAR I'M
GOING TO DOUBLE
THE POINTS OF
WHOEVER WINS
THIS RACE.



IT'S NO FUN
IF YOU KEEP
WINNING THE
CONTEST
EVERY YEAR,
GOEMON.

MASTER
?!

YES!! THIS
MEANS THAT
WE'VE GOT A
CHANCE TO
WIN THE
CONTEST!

GET
READY
!!

HOW
MEAN.

YEAH.

IF I MANAGE
TO FINISH THE
RACE, I'LL GET
POINTS FOR
PARTICIPATING IN
IT. I'LL BE ABLE
TO WIN THE
CONTEST OVERALL.

ARE YOU
SURE
ABOUT
THIS?

GOOD LUCK,
GOEMON!



I HOPE SHE HASN'T COLLAPSED OR SOMETHING...



AFTER THIS CONTEST...

...I'M GOING TO MAKE SOME MEDICINE FOR GOEMON'S LEG.



USAGI...





HANZO'S
FATHER

OTHELLO
IS A GAME
INVENTED BY
A JAPANESE
PERSON.

Tail Moon
of the

Chapter Nine



WHAT IS
THE MEANING OF
BUMPING INTO
USAGI AND
NOT EVEN
APOLOGIZING
?!

FOOM

HEY,
YOU!

IF I KEEP UP
THIS PACE,
THEN I'M
GOING TO WIN
THIS YEAR!

HUH
?!

HANZO, LET
ME DOWN
SO I CAN
RUN!!

A
RACE
?!?

LOOK,
WE'RE IN
THE MIST
OF A RACE
RIGHT
NOW!!

WHO
ARE
YOU?

YOU'RE
ALREADY
TOO TIRED
TO RUN!!

IF I CAN DO
10 LAPS
AROUND THE
VILLAGE,
THEN I CAN
WIN THIS
CONTEST...

THUNK

HANZO,
WHAT ARE
YOU
DOING?

I'M GOING
TO RUN
PAST THAT
MAN.

HOLD ON
TIGHTLY TO
MY BACK.

HMPH

THAT'S RIGHT.
WHY DON'T
YOU JUST
STAND
ASIDE?

DASH

HANZO...

Woo

SH

HANZO
!!

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?

OH!



TO
ON

WHAT?
USAGI?!

H-HE'S
SO
FAST!!

YOU'RE
CUTTING
THROUGH
THE AIR.

BUT I CAN'T
MAKE OUT THE
RUNNER--HE'S
TOO FAST.

WOW,
HANZO.

IT FEELS
LIKE WE'RE
FLYING LIKE
A FALCON!!

I'VE
NEVER
SEEN
ANYBODY
SO FAST.

USAGI
?!

AMAZING!
USAGI'S GOT
THE LEAD,
AND SHE'S
GOT ONLY
ONE MORE
LAP TO GO!!

WOW
!!

LOOK AT
HOW FAST
THAT GUY IS
RUNNING
!!

YOU'VE
GOT ONLY
7 LAPS TO
GO!!

YOU
CAN DO
IT!

VO
ON

THAT'S WHY I
THOUGHT USAGI'S
CAREFREE
ATTITUDE WOULD
SOFTEN HIM UP
A LITTLE BIT.

...BUT HE
ALSO EXPECTS
THE SAME
DISCIPLINE
FROM OTHERS
AS WELL.

BECAUSE OF
THAT, HE IS
EXTREMELY
DISCIPLINED AND
HAS BECOME A
FINE HIGH-
RANKING
NINJA...

USAGI
SHOULDN'T
HAVE TO
MARRY A
STIFF LIKE
HIM.

WOW, HE'S
COME BACK
ALREADY!!

GOEMON
...?

THAT'S
HANZO.

WHEN
DID YOU
CLIMB UP
THERE,
MASTER
?

YOU MEAN
MASTER
HATTORI
HANZO OF
SEGACHI?

HANZO
...

AMAZING
...

WHO
IS HE,
ANYWAY?

IT'S
UNBELIEVABLE
FOR SOMEONE
TO BE THAT
FAST WITH
SOMEBODY
ELSE ON THEIR
BACK.

HANZO
YASUNAGA
LEFT IGA TWO
GENERATIONS
AGO.

HANZO HAS
BEEN LEADING
THE WEAKENING
HATTORI CLAN
EVER SINCE HE
WAS 11 YEARS
OLD.



HAH

GRIN

NICE TO MEET YOU, MASTER HANZO.

GLOM

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING SO KIND TO USAGI IN SEGACHI.

HEY, DON'T HOLD ON TO ME IN FRONT OF HANZO!

WHEN ARE YOU TWO GETTING MARRIED?



AAAAH, HAS THE CONTEST FINISHED?!

MARRIED ...?



WE HAVEN'T DECIDED ON A DATE YET...

WHAT?!

...BUT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL YOU SOON.

USAGI AND GOEMON ARE GETTING MARRIED?!

WHOSE WEDDING?!

DON'T YOU KNOW? OURS, OF COURSE.

...I HAVE A WEDDING GIFT FOR YOU FROM HANZO.

OH, USA ...

TWP TWP



THANK YOU, HANZO !!

SQUEEZE

THE RACE IS OVER. YOU CAN LET GO NOW.

HERE.

THE LOVE POTION.

OH... OKAY.

YEAH!! GOEMON, I WON!!

HANZO, I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR RUNNING.

LOVE POTION?

USAGI WINS THE CONTEST !!

RAA

YOU SHOULD THANK HANZO TOO, GOEMON.

I GUESS IT'S ANYTHING GOES.

SHE'S THE WINNER?!



WHAT?!



PUSH

NO...



I SHOULD BE LEAVING NOW.

SHWIP

!!

HANZO, WAIT...

YOU'RE BETTER OFF WITH ME, USAGI!!

LET ME GO...

DON'T GO!!

What's going on?

TMP

TMP

THG



AREN'T YOU GLAD THAT HANZO'S HAPPY FOR US, USAGI?

HANZO...

I'M NOT GETTING MARRIED ...

THG

TODAY'S TOPIC
WHAT'S YOUR BLOOD TYPE?





I'VE
ALREADY
LOST SIGHT
OF HIM...

HANZO?

HANZO!

TMP

...I'M NEVER
GOING TO BE ABLE
TO GO BACK TO
SEGACHI NOW...

OH
NO...



IF I USE THE
BRIDGE, I'LL
NEVER CATCH
UP TO HIM...

PONT



HANZO,
WAIT!!



HANZO
!!



IF ONLY THIS
LEG OF MINE
WOULD
MOVE!!

DAMN
IT!

POOM



THAT
DEPENDS
ON THE
CIRCUM-
STANCE.

I...



I WAS
TRYING TO
CREATE
A FAIT
ACCOMPLI
LIKE YOU
SAID,
MASTER.

OUCH

...WEREN'T
YOU THE TYPE
OF PERSON WHO
MADE SLOW
ADVANCES
TOWARD
WOMEN?

GOEMON
...



I DIDN'T LET
USAGI GO SO A
GUY LIKE HANZO
COULD HAVE
HER!

GOEMON
...
...ARE
YOU REALLY
SERIOUS
ABOUT
USAGI?!

!!





OH.

I STILL
HAVEN'T
REALLY
TOLD
HANZO...

...THAT
I LOVE
HIM.

I
STILL...

SP
LO
OK

SHO

TUMP

HOLD

ON

USAGI!!!







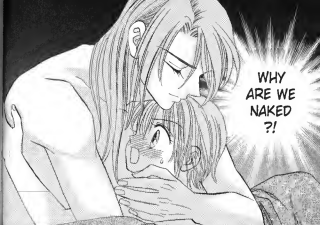
THORPE'S
FEET ARE
14 INCHES
LONG.



Tail Moon
of the

Chapter 10





TODAY'S TOPIC
WHAT'S YOUR HEIGHT?



I'M
5' 1".
♡



I'M 6'.



I'M
6' 1".



I
HEARD
I WAS
5' 9".



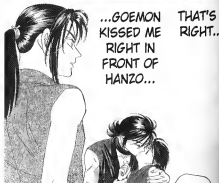
I'M
3'!



I'M NOT
GOING TO
MARRY
GOEMON!!

HANZO!

FIANCÉ
?!



...GOEMON
KISSED ME
RIGHT IN
FRONT OF
HANZO...

THAT'S
RIGHT...



YOU
SEE...

...THE
PERSON I'M
IN LOVE
WITH...



I WAS
REALLY
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU.

WHEN I
PULLED YOU
OUT OF THE
RIVER...

...YOU
WEREN'T
BREATHING.

...I COULDN'T
HAVE FACED
MASTER TANBA
OR YOUR
FIANCÉ...

IF
YOU HAD
DIED...

HE WAS
WORRIED
ABOUT
ME?!

ME?





I'VE
WORKED
SO HARD
TO GIVE
THIS POTION
TO HIM.

THIS IS
THE RIGHT
CHOICE.

THERE IS NO
HAPPINESS IN
USING A POTION
TO FORCE
SOMEONE TO
FALL IN LOVE
WITH YOU.

I CAN'T EVEN
BELIEVE THAT
SUCH A THING
AS A LOVE
POTION TRULY
EXISTS IN
THE FIRST
PLACE...

HUH?

I ONLY
PRETENDED
TO DRINK IT.

SO, WERE
YOU HAPPY
TO HEAR ME
SAY THAT?

I NEVER
NOTICED IT
UNTIL
NOW...

...BUT
YOU'RE SUCH
A FASCINATING
AND GORGEOUS
WOMAN,
USAGI...

...HE'LL
FALL IN LOVE
WITH ME!

U-USAGI
?!

BLIP

BLIP

I...I'M HAPPY
ABOUT WHAT
HE JUST SAID,
BUT...

HANZO...

...THERE'S
SOMETHING
THAT...

I WASN'T
TRYING TO
MAKE YOU
CRY...!

I'M
SORRY!

WAAH

...JUST
DOESN'T FEEL
RIGHT!!

HE
DOESN'T
HATE ME...

HE
DOESN'T
HATE ME?

DON'T
CRY.

I'M
SO
GLAD!

...YOU SAID
THAT YOU
WERE IN LOVE
WITH ME.

JUST
NOW...

TH-
THUMP

I'M
SORRY,
HANZO.

I
DON'T
HATE
YOU.

I-I KEEP
DOING THINGS
THAT YOU
HATE...

HANZO
IS RIGHT.

I
WANTED
YOU TO THINK
BETTER OF
ME.

HUG



I CAN GO
BACK TO
SEGACHI?!

I PROMISED
MASTER
TANBA THAT
I'LL TRAIN YOU
TO BECOME
A QUALIFIED
NINJA.

ONCE WE
GET BACK
TO SEGACHI,
WE'RE GOING
TO START
TRAINING
RIGHT AWAY.



OKAY.

HANZO
ACTUALLY DOES
THINK OF ME AS
A WOMAN.

I'M SO
HAPPY.



MY HEART IS
BEATING SO
FAST THAT IT
FEELS LIKE
IT'S GOING
TO BURST.



HEY, I
CAN'T GET
DRESSED IF
YOU HOLD
ONTO
ME...

THANK
YOU,
HANZO
!!



YEEK!

YOU
IDIOT!!



OKAY...

STARTING
TOMORROW,
YOU MUST
GET
DRESSED
BY YOUR-
SELF!!



IT
CAN'T
BE!

YOU'VE
NEVER
DRESSED
YOURSELF
BEFORE?!

THAT'S RIGHT!!
I'VE ALWAYS
ASKED MANZO
TO HELP ME GET
DRESSED...

SORRY
...

WHAT'S
THIS?!

YOU
ARE
DRESSED
SO
SLOPPILY
...



E-ENOUGH.
YOUR KIMONO
SHOULD BE
DRY BY
NOW.

HANZO,
YOU...

LOOK THE
OTHER WAY,
SO HURRY UP
AND GET
CHANGED!!



...YOU
ARE ABLE
TO OPENLY
EXPRESS
YOUR
FEELINGS.



USAGI

A MOMENT AGO,
YOU TOLD ME
THAT I WAS
EVERYTHING
YOU WERE
NOT...

...BUT YOU
HAVE MANY
QUALITIES
THAT I DO
NOT HAVE
TOO.



RIGHT.

...QUALITIES
LIKE BEING A
KLUTZ AND
BEING LAZY,
RIGHT?

BUT THAT'S
...



THERE'S
NOTHING
GOOD ABOUT
THAT...

DOOM

ALSO...



OUCH.



YOU SURE
ARE A
GENIUS AT
FALLING
OVER.

UNBELIV-
ABLE.



OH,
OKAY.

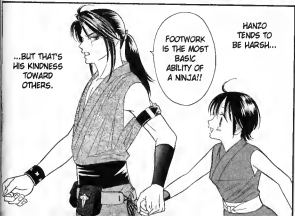


EVERYONE
IS WORRIED,
SO WE
SHOULD
RETURN TO
THE VILLAGE
QUICKLY.



WATCH
YOUR
STEP.

GAG



...BUT THAT'S
HIS KINDNESS
TOWARD
OTHERS.

FOOTWORK
IS THE MOST
BASIC
ABILITY OF
A NINJA!!

HANZO
TENDS TO
BE HARSH...



MASTER
HANZO AND
USAGI HAVE
RETURNED!!

I'VE FALLEN
IN LOVE WITH
HANZO EVEN
MORE.



UM,
NOTHING I
CAN THINK
OF...

WERE
THERE ANY
PROBLEMS IN
THE VILLAGE
WHILE I WAS
AWAY?

I'M
SORRY,
NAMEZO.

WAAAAH!
I WAS SO
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.

HMPH. YOU
SURE ARE
A TROUBLE-
MAKER!!



KLAK

A
GUEST
?

OH...

THERE IS
A GUEST
WAITING FOR
YOU, MASTER
HANZO...



ACK!

BUT THAT
DOESN'T MEAN
I WANT TO BE
LIKE YOU!!

THERE ARE
TIMES WHEN I
FEEL ENVOIOUS
OF YOU,
USAGI.

HANZO...

THERE ARE
MANY THINGS
ABOUT
YOURSELF THAT
YOU MUST
CHANGE!!



I'M GLAD THAT
I'VE BEEN ABLE
TO TELL HANZO
MY FEELINGS
FOR HIM.

YEAH,
OKAY.

...AND I FEEL
LIKE WE'RE
MUCH CLOSER
NOW.

I'VE BEEN
ABLE TO TALK
A LOT WITH
HIM...





ARE YOU WILLING TO
HELP USAGI FULFILL
HER ORIGINAL
ASSIGNMENT?

BUT--

TELL ME
SOME-
THING.



...AND
HAVE HER
GIVE BIRTH
TO YOUR
CHILD?!

WILL
YOU MARRY
USAGI...



WHAT?

MASTER HANZO
IS A HIGH-
RANKING NINJA.
I'M SURE HE'S
GOT MANY
OTHER JOBS TO
TAKE CARE OF,
RIGHT?

SO I'M GOING
TO SPARE YOU
THE TROUBLE
OF HAVING TO
TRAIN USAGI.

WELL,
AS YOU
SAID...

...THERE IS A LOT
OF WORK THAT
MASTER HANZO
MUST SEE TO.



THEN I,
GOEMON, WHO
WAS THE
GREATEST
NINJA IN ALL
OF IGA...

...WILL TRAIN
USAGI UNTIL
SHE BECOMES
THE PERFECT
NINJA!!



IF SHE CAN QUALIFY AS A NINJA...

G-GOEMON

to 1994

A black and white line drawing of a girl and a boy playing a game. The girl on the left has large, curly hair and is wearing a simple dress, with her arms outstretched. The boy on the right is wearing a t-shirt and shorts, holding a string that connects to the girl. A musical note is floating above them, suggesting they are playing a game with music.

**MAMEZO'S
MANY FACES** 



YES.

IF YOU
BECOME A
QUALIFIED
NINJA.

ARE YOU
GOING TO
CONSIDER
MARRYING ME
TOO?!

OH NO, I
FORGOT
ABOUT
YURI!!

I QUALIFIED
AS A NINJA
AT THE AGE
OF 7!!

THUNK

THE ONE WHO
QUALIFIED AS A
NINJA AT THE AGE
OF 7 IS YOUR TWIN
SISTER YUNA, IS
IT NOT?

H-
HANZO
?!

NO
WAY!

YOUR
SKILLS ARE
EXCELLENT,
BUT YOU'RE
TOO PROUD TO
BE A NINJA.

YOU
CAN'T
LIE TO
ME.

YOU
KNOW WHAT
I'M TALKING
ABOUT,
DON'T
YOU?

YURI
HASN'T
QUALIFIED
EITHER...

YURI!

I AM WILLING
TO GIVE IT SOME
CONSIDERATION
IF USAGI CAN
QUALIFY AS A
NINJA.

BEFORE,
HE WASN'T
INTERESTED
IN MARRYING
ANYBODY...

HANZO?!



LET'S WORK
TOGETHER SO
THAT WE CAN
BOTH QUALIFY
AS NINJA!!



...WE'VE
GOT TO
WORK
HARD.

THAT'S
WHY...



THAT'S
BECAUSE
YOU'RE A
HOPELESS
IDIOT, USAGI.



YEAH!



EVERYONE IN MY
VILLAGE MOCKED ME
ALL THE TIME, BUT
ONCE I GOT USED TO
IT, I DIDN'T MIND IT
ANYMORE.



WHAT?



OKAY, I'M
GOING TO
TRAIN BOTH
OF YOU.



DON'T TOUCH
ME! YOU'LL
INFECT ME
WITH YOUR
STUPIDITY.

HOPELESS
IDIOT...?



YURI...

TMP

WAIT,
YURI!!

TMP



HOW
COULD
YOU...

YOU'RE SO
CLOSE TO
BECOMING
A QUALIFIED
NINJA,
AREN'T
YOU?

BUT YOU
SHOULDN'T
LET THAT
BOTHER
YOU



I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN
COMPARED
TO MY
BRILLIANT
SISTER...

...KNOW
HOW I
FEEL?!

...AND I'VE
ALWAYS
LOST!!



BUT IF YOU BECOME
A QUALIFIED NINJA,
YOU MAY END UP
MARRYING HANZO,
RIGHT?

I'M LOOKING
FORWARD TO
YOUR GUIDANCE,
GOEMON!!

OOOH, I'M
GOING TO
WORK SO HARD!

THAT'S
WHY I'M
GOING TO
TRAIN
HARD!

GOEMON...

...STOP
PLAYING WITH
MAMEZO AND
HURRY UP
WITH OUR TRAINING!

USAGI...

COME TO THINK OF IT,
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR
USAGI TO QUALIFY IN
SIX MONTHS, BUT
STILL... I'VE GOT TO
DO SOMETHING...

HE'S
NOT
ANY-
MORE
!!

EX-
FIANCE.

...ISNT
GOEMON
YOUR
FIANCE?



ARE YOU
READY?!

OKAY,
LET'S GET
STARTED.

Y-YES!!



SO STOP
AVOIDING ME,
OKAY? YOU'RE
HURTING MY
FEELINGS.

I
PROMISE.

GOEMON,
I WANT YOU TO
PROMISE
ME...

USAGI?

RAAAH

WHAT?
WHAT DID
HE DO TO
YOU?!

RAAAH

I DON'T
WANT TO
TELL YOU!!

I'M SURE
THERE'S
NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT
IF THE FAMOUS
GOEMON IS
GOING TO BE
TRAINING THEM

I'M
WORRIED,
BUT I
HAVE NO
CHOICE.

I WON'T
DO IT
AGAIN.

...WHAT
YOU DID
BEFORE!!

...THAT
YOU
WON'T
DO...



BOTH OF YOU WILL
BE ORDERED BACK
TO YOUR VILLAGE
IF YOU CANNOT
QUALIFY BY THE END
OF THIS YEAR.

ME
TOO!!

I PROMISE
YOU THAT
I WILL
QUALIFY!!

TODAY'S TOPIC
WHAT'S YOUR HOBBY?



BATING
AND
MAKING
MEDICINE.
♡



WORK.

I AM
FOND OF
VASES.



FISHING
AND
TAKING
NAPS.



HITTING
ON
GIRLS
...♡
BUT
DON'T
TELL
SARA
ABOUT
IT.



PLAYING
WITH MY
PIGLET.



NOT BAD,
MAMAZO.

HM.
THE
SLIDING
OUT
TECH-
NIQUE
...

MAKE SURE
YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY
LEFT,
OKAY?!

I'M NOT
GOING TO
MAKE IT.

DASH



USAGI.

NO!!

oink?

WE'LL
USE THE
PIGLET
INSTEAD.



I'M GLAD
THAT
YOU'VE
BEEN ABLE
TO COME
BACK.

TMP

OH...

...PRINCESS
!!



I WANT
TO GO
TO THE
BATH-
ROOM.

DON'T
GIVE ME
THAT. IT'S
TRAINING
FOR YOUR
MIND
AND
BODY.

NOT
UNTIL
THE
END OF
THIS
YEAR.

WHAT?!



YOU
MUST
ENDURE
IT!!

NO
GETTING
OFF!

HMPH.
HURRY
UP, WILL
YOU?



TWO
YEARS
?!

I HAD YOU ON
MY BACK FOR
TWO YEARS
USAGI. DO
YOU KNOW
THAT?!

I'M
GOING TO
WET
MYSELF.

NO
WAY!



BUT IT
ALSO FELT
KIND OF
LONELY...

THAT
EXHILARATING
FEELING IS
SOMETHING
YOU DON'T
GET TO FEEL
THAT OFTEN.

THE
LIGHTNESS
OF MY BODY
WHEN I LET
USAGI OFF
MY BACK...

IF YOU WET
YOURSELF
ON MY BACK,
I'M NEVER
GOING TO
FORGIVE
YOU!!

I
CAN'T
HOLD
IT ANY-
MORE.



YOU CAN'T LET
MAMAZO OFF
YOUR BACK
UNTIL I SAY
SO!!

HM...

WHEN'S
THAT
GOING TO
BE?





I'M SURPRISED
TO FIND AN
ODA ASSASSIN
HERE IN THIS
VILLAGE.

THIS IS
ACTUALLY
THE SECOND
TIME I'VE
SEEN YOU.

BUT I
FAILED TO
GET RID OF
YOU THE
FIRST TIME.

...I'M ONLY
DOING MY
JOB...

NO HARD
FEELINGS

H-
HURRY

KILL...
ME...

HU...RRY
UP...DO
IT...

WHAT?

OWW...

KRIK
KRIK



UGH...

FUMP

FW
SH

THIS WOMAN
IS AN ENEMY
TO IGA, ISN'T
SHE?!

EVERY NINJA
AND EVERY
ASSASSIN IS
OUT TO GET
HER!!

COUGH
COUGH

HOW
COME YOU'RE
TRYING TO
PROTECT
HER?!

HEY!

TMP
TMP
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!

THE PRINCESS
FOUGHT FOR
US TO
PROTECT
IGA!!

WAIT A
MINUTE!!

YOU...

...SO YOU
CAME TO
THIS VILLAGE
INTENDING TO
KILL THE
PRINCESS?!

WOAH!

M

WHAT...?!

ZFZ



PRINCESS

HANZO...

PLEASE
DON'T SAY
SUCH
THINGS!!



WHAT?!

IT'S...

...MEANINGLESS
FOR ME TO BE
ALIVE.

IT'S OKAY...

I'D
RATHER
BE
DEAD...

GOEMON,
HOW COULD
YOU DO SUCH
A THING TO
THE
PRINCESS?

NO MATTER HOW
LONG I WAIT FOR
HANZOU TO COME
FOR ME, HE
WON'T COME...

...IS AS
GOOD AS
BEING
DEAD!!

WAAAAH

A LIFE
WITHOUT
HANZOU...



AND THE
FEELINGS
FOR THE
PRINCESS...

...THAT
HANZO HAS.



...AS
STRONG?

LEAVE US
ALONE FOR
A WHILE.



GOEMON
!!

LET'S GO,
GOEMON.



SHOCK

O-
OKAY...

ARE MY
FEELINGS
FOR HIM...



PLEASE
DON'T!!

WAAAH

PLEASE...



IT'S...



...SO
STRONG...

...THE
PRINCESS'S
FEELINGS
FOR HANZOU.

THE PRINCESS ISN'T BROKEN-HEARTED.

"I LOVE YOU SARA, BUT I WON'T STOP BEING KIND TO OTHER GIRLS."

THEY MAY NOT BE GETTING ALONG RIGHT NOW, BUT THEY LOVE EACH OTHER.

SHE CAN'T DO THAT!! THAT'S WHY SHE IS STILL HERE IN THIS VILLAGE!

BROKEN-HEARTED ...

WHAT IF THE PRINCESS, BROKEN-HEARTED BY KAMI NO HANZOU...

...DECIDES TO MARRY OUR HANZO?!

THEN THE PRINCESS SHOULD JUST GO STRAIGHT TO OKAZAKI TO SEE HANZOU.

...THE PRINCESS MAY STEAL OUR HANZO AWAY BEFORE WE'RE EVEN QUALIFIED AS NINJA!!

UNLESS WE DO SOMETHING TO GET THE PRINCESS AND KAMI NO HANZOU ON GOOD TERMS AGAIN...

...I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO LIVE.

IF YOU TRY TO DO ANYTHING TO THE PRINCESS AGAIN...

I REALLY AM SORRY ...

Y...YOU HAVE MY WORD.

HANZO IS STILL IN LOVE WITH THE PRINCESS...

WHAT?

...VERY, VERY MUCH.

HANZO AND THAT PRINCESS !!

WE CAN'T LET IT GO ON LIKE THIS!!



THEN HOW ABOUT GOING DOWN TO HAMAMATSU TO GET HANZO?

NOOOO.
NOOOO.

MY EARS HURT!

I THINK THE PRINCESS AND HANZO MAKE A NICE PAIR.

I REALLY DON'T CARE, ACTUALLY.



...BUT WE DON'T HAVE TO TELL HIM.

I DON'T KNOW IF HANZO WILL ALLOW US...

HANZO IS AT HAMAMATSU CASTLE RIGHT NOW.

YOU TWO NEED TO BE MORE INFORMED TO BE TRUE NINJA.

HAMAMATSU ?!

Where's that?



YOU WANT TO GO TO HAMAMATSU?

SO IT'S AN EXTRA-CURRICULAR TRAINING SESSION.



A NINJA MUST STAY CALM AT ALL TIMES!!

IT'S THE MOST BASIC PRINCIPLE !!

AAAH!



WE USED TO TAKE BATHS TOGETHER ALL THE TIME.

HEY, I TOLD YOU NOT TO DO ANYTHING!

SHOCK

I SAW IT, AND I'M NOT EVEN MARRIED YET!



THAT'S WHY WE'RE DISCUSSING IT!!

PLUNK

...HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET THE PRINCESS AND KAMI NO HANZO TOGETHER AGAIN?

SO...

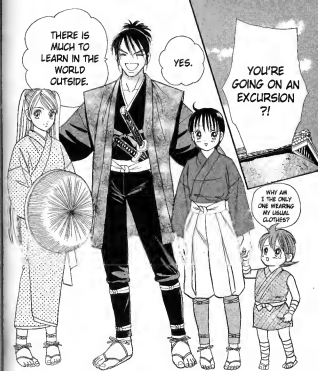
I... I'M IN THE SAME BATHTUB WITH A MAN... AAAAH!

One...
Two...
Three...
Four...



...I'M
GOING TO
DO MY
BEST!!

FOR THE
PRINCESS, AND
FOR MYSELF
TO QUALIFY AS
A NINJA...





WANGZU IS
SERIAL

Tail Moon

of the

Chapter 12







4/26/2014

CAN YOU
TWO HURRY
UP AND
TREAT THE
PATIENT,
PLEASE?

SO THAT'S
WHY YOU
KNOW ABOUT
COCCILLUS
TRILOBUS.

THERE'S A
WOUNDED
MAN WHO
NEEDS IT!

I NEED
THAT PLANT
RIGHT NOW!

I
KNOW
!!

THIS ISN'T
EDIBLE,
YOU
KNOW.

I FOUND
THAT PLANT
FIRST!!

I'M A SAMURAI WHO'S BEEN HIRED BY THESE TWO SISTERS TO LOOK FOR THEIR PARENTS.

MME

HANAMATSU
CAST--

YOU SEEM
TO BE ON
YOUR WAY
SOMEWHERE.
WHERE ARE
YOU OFF TO?

YOU'VE GOT
A LOT OF
MEDICINE.

WOW.

I HOPE
I HAVE
ENOUGH
MEDICINE.

THANK
YOU,
MISTER!!

WELL,
I SHOULD
BE OFF.
GOODBYE!

IS THAT SO?
I HOPE YOU
FIND THEM
SOON.

NOW THAT
YOU KNOW,
WE CAN'T
KEEP YOU
ALIVE!

HOLD IT,
YURI.

N-
NINJ
?!

YOU'RE SUCH
AN IDIOT!
A NINJA
SHOULDN'T
TELL THE
TRUTH SO
EASILY.

GOEMON,
WHAT'S WITH
THE FINDING
OUR
PARENTS
STORY?!

MY HOBBY
IS MAKING
MEDICINES
TOO.

NO, THIS
IS ONLY A
HOBBY OF
MINE.

I HOPE
I HAVE
ENOUGH
MEDICINE

TMP

GOEMON!

AH, YOU
 FOUND
 111

...WHO'S
THAT
MAN?

TMP

TMP

THIS MAN IS
GOING TO
HELP US!

MY MY,
THIS SUR
IS BAD.

TODAY'S TOPIC
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?

GRILLED FISH.
BUT I ACTUALLY LIKE ANYTHING.

THERE IS NOTHING I CAN'T EAT!!
BUT I LIKE MY FOOD TO BE SLIGHTLY BLAND.

EXTRA HARD RICE CRACKERS.

ALSO SOUP, AND ANYTHING THAT'S BEEN FLAVORED WITH MISO.

I LOVE SWEET SESAME DUMPLINGS!!

HMPH

...I FORGOT TO GIVE IT TO YOU.

THE MEDICINE FOR YOUR LEG...

THAT HURT!

I DON'T LIKE YOU, GOEMON.

NO WAY!

FOR ME?!

I KNEW IT! USAGI, YOU SHOULD BECOME MY WIFE RIGHT NOW--

WAAAH

USAGI !!

AND YOU GAVE MY RICE BALLS AWAY.

HEY, THAT'S MY RICE BALL!!

HERE'S SOME WATER AND RICE.

YOU SHOULD FEEL BETTER ONCE YOU'VE EATEN.

But...

Don't pull out such a dangerous weapon!

DEFEATED SOLDIERS HAVE NOWHERE TO GO ANYWAY.

ONCE YOU'RE ABLE TO MOVE, YOU CAN GO DOWN SOUTH TO AKAME AND HIDE THERE.

FLIP FLIP

...I'LL NEVER FORGET WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR ME...

TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH...

N- NOTHING.

GOEMON, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

PEOPLE HAVE GOT TO HELP EACH OTHER IN NEED. SEE YA..

YEAH, RIGHT.

Ouch...



...SO EAT UP AND LET'S GET TO SLEEP EARLY.

WE'LL BE IN HAMAMATSU BY TOMORROW...



...IDIOT!

YOU...

OUCH! WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!

HURRY UP WITH THE FIRE. I'VE ALREADY CAUGHT ENOUGH FISH.

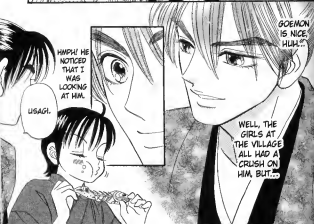


GOODIE!

HERE YOU ARE, NAMEZO.

YOU GET TO HAVE A BIG ONE.

CHOMP CHOMP
MUNCH MUNCH



HMPH! HE NOTICED THAT I WAS LOOKING AT HIM.

USAGI.

GOEMON IS NICE, HUH...

WELL, THE GIRLS AT THE VILLAGE ALL HAD A CRUSH ON HIM, BUT...



...WHY CAN'T YOU CHOOSE GOEMON?!

OTOH!

TEARSH!

WOW!

USAGI...



GOEMON ?!

NICE?

HE'S SUCH A NICE MAN. HE'S KIND AND HANDSOME...



...SO I'VE NEVER REALLY SEEN HIM THAT WAY.

I'VE BEEN WITH HIM EVER SINCE I WAS BORN...

USAGI, MAYBE YOU'RE THE ONE WITH BAD EYESIGHT?



...CRUSH...

YURI HAS A...

GOEMON!

OH, I GET IT!!

DO YOU KNOW HOW LUCKY YOU ARE?







I'LL GO AND
GET HANZOU
FOR YOU!!

THEN
WHAT
SHOULD
WE DO?!

THAT FATHER
DOESN'T LIKE THE
RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN KAMI
NO HANZOU AND
THE PRINCESS.

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT
?!

SHUP

REALLY,
GOEMON?!

JUST STAY
HERE UNTIL I
COME BACK,
OKAY?!

HE'S WONDER-
FUL!
♡



I HAVE
NOTHING TO
SAY ON THE
MATTER!

LEAVE!

SHE'S
DEPRESSED
BECAUSE SHE
HASN'T BEEN
ABLE TO SEE
HANZOU AND...

SHU-



WE'RE
GOING TO
HAVE TO
TURN BACK
FOR NOW.

WE WANT
TO TALK TO
HANZOU...

WAIT!



RAAAH!
RAAAH!

Come on!

WHY? AFTER
WE'VE COME
ALL THIS
WAY?!

I THOUGHT
THIS MIGHT
HAPPEN.







TMP

TMP

THE
INTRUDER'S
OVER HERE,
MASTER
HANZO!



U-
USAGI
IS...

...DEAD!

WA
A
A
A
H!



QUIET.

WHO IS
IT?!

I KNEW
YOU'D
BE
HERE.



DON'T
WORRY
...

...I'M HERE
TO HELP
YOU.



Tail of the ***Moon***★

Chapter 13





WHY CAN'T
YOU RELY ON
ME MORE?!

MY LIFE IS
YOURS TO DO
WITH AS YOU
PLEASE, YOU
KNOW!!



GOEMON...

WHAT
THE?!

I'M SO
JEALOUS
...

I'LL LET
ALL OF YOU
OUT ONCE
YOU CHANGE
YOUR MIND,
HANZOU!

YOU'VE ALL
DONE THIS
FOR ME,
BUT...

SORRY.



USA!!

OWW!

OUCH.



IN THE
DUNGEON!

ARE YOU
OKAY
?!

I'M SO
HAPPY
YOU'RE
ALIVE,
USAGI!

MY
FOREHEAD
HURTS...

WE ALL
GOT CAUGHT
BECAUSE OF
YOU, USAGI!

WHERE
ARE WE
ANYWAY?



WHY?

BUT...

...YOU'VE GOT
A BAD LEG,
GOEMON, AND
I DIDN'T WANT
YOU TO DO
EVERYTHING
ALONE...

DUNGEON
?!

DAMMIT!
DIDN'T I TELL
YOU NOT TO
GO ANY-
WHERE?!



HUH?

...HAS
REGAINED
CONSCIOUS-
NESS.

THE
GIRL
...

TMP

JAB
JAB

TMP



WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
HERE?!

YOU'RE THAT
GRUBBY
MAN I MET
BEFORE.

OH!



LORD
IYASU?

USAGH!

WHEN DID
YOU BECOME
FRIENDS WITH
LORD
IYASU?!

THIS
GIRL IS
A FRIEND
OF MINE.

IT'S
FINE.

H-HOW
DARE YOU
CALL HIM
GRUBBY...

JAB



BEARDED
HANZO...

NO
WAY!!

...PLEASE
LET THEM
BE TO-
GETHER!

B-
BEARDED
?

THEY LOVE
EACH OTHER
WITH ALL
THEIR
HEARTS!

I'LL
NEVER
GIVE SARA
UP!!

FATHER!

SO, HAVE
YOU DECIDED
TO BREAK UP
WITH THE
ODA
PRINCESS?

YOU MUST
CALM DOWN
IF YOU WANT
THAT PAIN TO
GO AWAY.

WHETHER
THEY LOVE
EACH OTHER
OR NOT...

...I CANNOT
LET HANZO BE
WITH THAT
PRINCESS.

OH.
MY
LORD!

OWW...

JAB
JAB
JAB

JAB
JAB
JAB

THEY WERE
KILLED TO STOP
A HUGE WAR
FROM HAPPENING
BETWEEN THE ODA
FAMILY AND THE
TOKUGAWA
FAMILY!!

THE...

...THE
PRINCESS
DID THAT?

THAT WAS BECAUSE
YOUR WIFE AND
NOBUYASU WERE
PLOTING TO BETRAY
LORD NOBUNAGA!

...EVEN I
WOULD BE
COMPELLED TO
DRAW MY
SWORD IF THAT
PRINCESS WERE
TO APPEAR
BEFORE ME.

I
UNDER-
STAND
...

...THEIR
DEATHS MAY
HAVE BEEN
NECESSARY TO
STOP A HUGE
WAR, BUT...

...SUCH A
CRISIS HAD
OCCURRED.

I
DIDN'T
KNOW...

PLEASE TELL
HANZOU'S
FATHER TO
FORGIVE
HANZOU!

HE'S
VERY
FAMOUS
!!

IS HE
FAMOUS
?

YOU'RE IN A
POSITION OF
POWER,
AREN'T
YOU?!

PRINCESS
SARA...

...IS THE
VERY PERSON
WHO KILLED
MY WIFE AND
MY SON
NOBUYASU.

TOKUGAWA
IEYASU?!

HOW'S THE
WOUND ON
YOUR
FORE-
HEAD?

IT HAD
GAPED
OPEN, SO I
STITCHED IT
MYSELF.



WHO IS HE ?

HATTORI HANZO OF IGA, MY LORD.

I WILL TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVERYTHING THAT HAS HAPPENED AND RECEIVE ANY PUNISHMENT, SO PLEASE RELEASE THEM!!



HERE, TRY ONE OF MY MEDICINES.

NO THANKS !!

TAKE IT, HANZO. THIS GIRL IS PRETTY TALENTED WITH MEDICINES.



HE HAS BEEN FEELING SHARP PAINS IN HIS STOMACH BECAUSE HE'S BEEN TOO CONCERNED ABOUT HANZO.

EVEN MY MEDICINES WON'T WORK ON HIM ANYMORE.



THAT IS WHY I CAN'T LET THOSE TWO BE TOGETHER ...

DOES YOUR STOMACH HURT?



AS I THOUGHT ...

WHAT A SURPRISE!

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D COME DOWN HERE! ♥



BY THE WAY, HOW IS THAT STOMACH-ACHE OF YOURS?

HUH?

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, IT SEEMS TO HAVE STOPPED HURTING...



IT'S OKAY.

YOU CAN LET THEM GO.

IT'S HANZO !!



SHIMO NO HANZO!! IF ONLY YOU HAD KEPT A TIGHTER GRIP UPON THE SITUATION!



KAMI NO HANZO!

TMP TMP

HU & HU &

Y-YES SIR...



HANZO !!

I AM VERY SORRY!

I SEE THAT MY PUPILS HAVE CAUSED YOU MUCH TROUBLE...





PRINCESS
?!

Tmp
Tmp

I TRIED
TO STOP
HER...

I'M
SORRY
...

SARA!

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?!

FL
UMP

...SEE YOU,
HANZOU.

I
HAD
TO...



...I
LOVE
YOU...

HANZO...

HEY,
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!

DON'T YOU
EVER DO
SUCH A
DANGEROUS
THING
AGAIN!

...WE
HAVE AN
INTRUDER!

MASTER
HANZO
...

IT'S AN UN-
BELIEVABLE
STRONG
WOMAN...

MY LORD!!
PLEASE
ESCAPE
QUICKLY!!

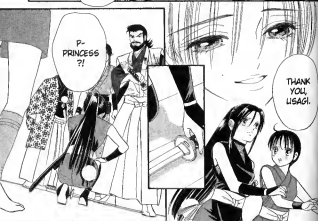
GOEMON,
WHO ELSE
DID YOU
BRING?!

I DON'T
KNOW!

WHAT?!

URGH!

SWAP





...I'M
GOING TO
HAVE THIS
GIRL..

I'M SO
GLAD.

HUH?

BUT IN
EXCHANGE
...

I-I
DON'T
WANT
TO!!

I'M SORRY, BUT
USAGI IS A KUNOICHI
TRAINEE WHO WAS
ENTRUSTED TO ME BY
MASTER MOMOCHI
TANBA AND...

SHIMO NO
HANZO, DO YOU
REALLY THINK
THIS GIRL WILL
EVER BECOME A
NINJA?

OH NO,
I'M GOING
TO HAVE
HER WORK
DIRECTLY
UNDER ME
AS MY
HERBALIST.

WHAT
?!

YOU'VE
ALREADY
FOUND
OUT HOW
GOOD HER
MEDICINES
ARE, RIGHT,
HANZO?

BUT,
MY LORD
...

YOU'RE
GOING TO
MAKE HER
INTO YOUR
CONCUBINE
?!

WH-
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?!

THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH!!

WHAT
?

I'M GOING
TO LET
THEM BE
TOGETHER.

THANK
YOU,
MISTER!

HANZOU!

I LOVE
YOU!!

SARA!

DIDN'T I
PROMISE YOU
THAT I WOULD
PERSONALLY TAKE
THE RESPONSIBILITY
TO GET HER
QUALIFIED AS A
NINJA?!

USAGI?!

WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?!

IT'S
OKAY.

I'll...

...I'LL
STAY
HERE.

LOOK,
I DON'T
WANT
TO...

...AND
EXPAND HER
SKILLS AS A
HERBALIST?

WELL...

AS LORD
IEYASU
SAID...

YOU SHOULD
STAY HERE,
USAGI.

...YOU'RE
NOT SUITED
TO BECOME
A NINJA.

WHAT?

TODAY'S TOPIC

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE COLOR?

I LIKE ANY COLOR THAT LOOKS GOOD TO EAT. ♡

I LIKE DISCREET COLORS LIKE LIGHT BLUE.

MY FAVORITE COLORS ARE DEFINITELY RED AND BLACK.

PINK IS A NICE, WHOLE-SOME COLOR. ♡ ♡

I LIKE ALL THE COLORS OF THE RAINBOW!

Now I can have Goumon all to myself! ♡



WHO IS THIS
SOMBER
CREATURE IN
FRONT OF
ME?

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!



IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR YOU
TO BECOME
A NINJA!

I CAN'T...



...BECOME
HANZO'S WIFE
ANYMORE.

USAGI...

...DON'T
YOU WANT
TO SEE
THEM OFF?

NO.

GREAT
GRANDPA
ALWAYS SAID
IT BUT...



YOU'RE
NOT
SUITED TO
BECOME A
NINJA!

...I NEVER
THOUGHT
HANZO
WOULD SAY
IT TOO...





I'M
REALLY
WORRIED
...



BUT...

...USA CAN'T
DO ANYTHING
ALONE.



MAYBE
HE WENT
TO THE
BATH-
ROOM?

HE WAS
RIGHT
BESIDE ME
UNTIL A
MOMENT
AGO...

OH?
WHERE
DID
GOEMON
GO?



IT'S NOT THAT
USAGI CAN'T DO
ANYTHING BY
HERSELF.



...THEN DON'T
YOU THINK IF
WOULD BE
BETTER TO WATCH
HER BECOME
INDEPENDENT
RATHER THAN
HELPING HER
ALL THE TIME?

IF YOU
THINK
DEARLY
OF
USAGI
...



I'M NOT
SURE I
UNDER-
STAND.

HMM



LEAVING USAGI
BEHIND IN
HAMAMATSU IN
EXCHANGE FOR
US...

HUH?

TMP

TMP

...ARE YOU
SURE ABOUT
WHAT YOU
DID?

HANZO...



...AND IT IS
GOOD FOR HER
TO BE AT A
PLACE WHERE
SHE CAN USE
HER SKILL TO
THE FULLEST.

USAGI
SHOULD
CULTIVATE
HER SKILLS
AS A
HERBALIST...



SHE'S CUTER THAN YURI!!

SHE'S GOT SUCH A CUTE VOICE TOO!!

MY LORD !!

THIS CUTE PERSON IS A HERBALIST TOO?!

WHY DID YOU HIRE ANOTHER HERBALIST WHEN YOU'VE GOT ME?

TH-THOMP



USAGI IS A FINE HERBALIST.

HUH?



M-MY LORD !!

OKAY, GOOD LUCK, YOU TWO!

I WANT YOU TO TEACH USAGI ABOUT THE WORK HERE.

WEREN'T YOU HAVING SOME TROUBLE MAKING THAT MEDICINE I WAS ASKING FOR?

WHAT'S WITH THOSE FRILLS?!

UM, WELL....



...WHO IS THIS SOMBER CREATURE IN FRONT OF ME?

MY LORD ...

OH, YUKIMARU !!

OH?! WHY IS SHE CRYING?

SHE'S USAGI FROM IGA.



SHE'S GOING TO WORK FOR YOU?

SHE'S A MEMBER OF THE NINJA, BUT I'VE HIRED HER TO WORK FOR ME AS A HERBALIST.



YUKIMARU IS MY HERBALIST TOO.

USAGI.

I WANT YOU TWO TO GET ALONG.



BEING WITH HER IS NOT THE ONLY WAY FOR YOU TO SHOW YOUR LOVE.



I HAVE BEEN
STUDYING UNDER
MASTER PEDRO OF
THE WEST TO LEARN
WESTERN MEDICINE.

BUT I'M SURE A
MOUNTAIN APE
FROM IGA WON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHAT I'M
TALKING
ABOUT.

PEDRO OF THE
WEST?

WHO
ARE YOU
CALLING
MOUNTAIN
APE?!

YUKIMARU,
I NEED
YOUR HELP
AT ONCE!!

MY WIFE'S
CONDITION
HAS
SUDDENLY
GOTTEN
WORSE!!

AND WHO
IS YOUR
MASTER?

IF MY LORD
SAYS SO, THEN
I EXPECT YOU
TO HAVE SOME
SKILLS AS A
HERBALIST.

I'M ASKING
YOU WHO YOUR
MASTER IS!!

I'VE BEEN
ASKING YOU
AGAIN AND
AGAIN WHO
YOUR MASTER
IS, OKAY?!

THAT'S
NOT
WHAT I
ASKED!!

OH HI, MY
NAME IS
USAGI!!

HUH
?!

I'VE
NEVER HEARD
OF A SELF-
EDUCATED
HERBALIST!!

EVERY-
BODY
IN THE
VILLAGE
IS MY
MASTER.

BY
YOUR-
SELF
?!

YOU
DON'T YOU
HAVE A
MASTER?!

UMM, GREAT
GRANDPA, AND
EVERYBODY IN
THE VILLAGE...

MAS-
TER
?

...AND I
DO A LOT OF
RESEARCH
BY MYSELF...



WHAT?!

THE
MEDICINE
HERE...

THAT IS
MILADY'S
MEDICINE!

...I DON'T
THINK SHE
SHOULD
TAKE
THEM.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?!

...THEY TEND
TO WORK
AGAINST EACH
OTHER, AND
IT'S BAD FOR
THE BODY.

IF YOU
TAKE SO
MANY
MEDICINES
AT ONCE...

IF YOU KEEP
TAKING THE SAME
MEDICINE FOR A
LONG TIME, THE
BODY GETS USED
TO THE MEDICINE, AND IT
STOPS HAVING THE
SAME EFFECT ON
THE ILLNESS.

THAT'S
NOT
WHAT I
MEANT.

ARE YOU
TELLING ME
THAT MY
MEDICINE IS
BAD FOR THE
BODY?!

IT'S BETTER TO
TAKE NUTRITION
BY EATING
FOOD...

...THEN YOU ONLY
NEED TO TAKE A
SMALL AMOUNT
OF MEDICINE TO
HELP THE BODY
HEAL ITSELF.



SHE'S GOT AN
ILLNESS OF THE
HEART AND HAS
BEEN IN BED FOR
THREE MONTHS
NOW.

WHAT'S
WRONG?

IT'S THE USUAL
SEIZURE--
SHE SHOULD
CALM DOWN
SOON.



...AND SHE
HASN'T
EATEN FOR THE
LAST
FEW DAYS
EITHER...

HER FEVER
HASN'T
GONE DOWN
SINCE LAST
NIGHT...



!

AS LONG AS
SHE IS TAKING
MEDICINE FOR
HER NUTRIENTS,
SHE DOESN'T
NEED TO EAT.



SHE HAS
OTHER
ILLNESSES
APART FROM
THE HEART
SO...

I'VE
BLENDED
THEM ALL
MYSELF.

ARE...ARE
THESE ALL THE
MEDICINE THAT
SHE NEEDS TO
TAKE?!



HEY...

...WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!

HAH.



BUT USAGI...

...YOU ARE A MUCH FINER HERBALIST THAN YOU APPEAR.



IT CAN'T BE HELPED. YUKIMARU IS A PROUD PERSON.

Oh no.

D-DID I HURT YUKI'S FEELINGS ?!



BOTH LORD IEYASU AND I ARE COUNTING ON YOU.



WELL, I GUESS IT'S OBVIOUS SINCE THEY ARE RELATIVES, BUT...

HIS EYES LOOK LIKE HANZO'S WHEN HE SMILES KINDLY...



IT'S MEANINGLESS TO THINK ABOUT HANZO ANYMORE.

N-NO.

I'M GOING OUT TO GATHER SOME HERBS.



IS THERE SOMETHING ON MY FACE?

...I WONDER IF HANZO WILL BE LIKE THIS WHEN HE IS OLDER?



LET'S TRY WHAT USAGI IS SAYING.



MASTER HANZO ?!

...MAYBE YOUR MEDICINE DOES NOT HAVE ANY EFFECT ANYMORE...

AS USAGI SAID...



YUKI!



I'M DOING IT TO HELP HER!

DON'T YOU DARE DO SUCH THINGS!!

ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL HER?!

BEARDED HANZO, PLEASE STOP HER FROM TAKING THIS MEDICINE, BUT MAKE SURE SHE EATS PROPERLY.

I'LL FIND THE TIME TO MAKE SOME MEDICINE THAT SUITS YOUR WIFE--





YOU!

I DIDN'T
DO ANY-
THING!

WH-WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?!

YOU MAY BE
CLITE, BUT YOU
SURE ARE
CAPABLE OF
TERRIBLE
THINGS.

AH?

TUG

SILENCE!
I'LL KILL
YOU FOR
WHAT YOU
DID!

YEEET!



VIP

HA
HA...

...SHE
JUST FELL
DOWN ALL
ON HER
OWN...

SHE
...

AAAAARGH!
SHONK
RUM
BRUM

I SEE THAT
GOD HAS
PUNISHED
HER BEFORE
I COULD...

WHAT
?!

TOON



Thank you
everybody
for reading
this manga

And thank
you to those
who sent me
messages.
They're really
encouraging!
♥



If you have
messages,
please let me
know about
them
♥

Send them to:
Rinko Ueda
C/O Tail of the
Moon Editor
P.O. Box 1101st
San Francisco, CA
94107

See you all in
volume 3!...

Rinko Ueda





WE BOTH
WANT TO
HELP MASTER
HANZO'S
WIFE, SO...

I
NOTICED
IT WHEN
I TOOK
A LICK.

THE
MEDICINES
YOU MAKE
ARE REALLY
GOOD!

YUKI...



I'LL
FORGIVE
YOU, SO
WASH MY
BACK FOR
ME.



SO?

NINJAS TAKE
BATHS 3 TIMES A
DAY--MORNING,
NOON, AND NIGHT.

OH,
DO YOU
KNOW?



OKAY, I
WILL!!



PHEW.



OH.

HMPH



DO YOU
MIND IF I
JOIN YOU?

YUKI?
?



...

SPLOOSH

...

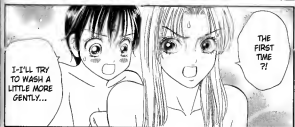


...ABOUT
YOUR
MEDICINE.

I MUST HAVE
HURT YOUR
FEELINGS.
I AM REALLY
SORRY...



I'M
SORRY
...





TO BE CONTINUED...



Page 143, panel 5: **Tokugawa Ieyasu**
Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543-1616) was the first Shogun of the Tokugawa Shogunate. He made a small fishing village named Edo the center of his activities. Edo thrived and became a huge town, and was later renamed Tokyo, the present capital.

Page 144, panel 5: **Ieyasu's wife and son**
It is a historical fact that Ieyasu lost his first wife and son to Nobunaga, but unlike in this manga, he was forced to kill his wife and order his son to commit suicide, in order to prove his loyalty to Nobunaga.

Page 147, panel 2: **Shimo no Hanzo**
Shimo no means "the Lower," and in this case refers to Hanzo's geographic location rather than social status.

Page 161, panel 1: **Tanuki**
Goemon is calling Ieyasu a *tanuki*, which is usually translated into English as "raccoon" or "badger." They look like a cross between those animals, and are known in Japanese folklore to trick people.

Page 165: **Zhuge Liang Kongming**
Zhuge Liang Kongming (181-234), one of China's most famous hero figures, worked under military leader Liu Bei of the Shu Kingdom as a strategist during the Three Kingdoms Era. His popularity has been solidified by his appearance in the famous epic novel, *The Romance of Three Kingdoms*.

Page 165: **Manjyu**
Manjyu is a bun with filling. *Manjyu* is usually only filled with sweet red-bean paste in Japan, but in China *manjyu* is often filled with meat and other salty fillings.

The ways of the ninja are mysterious indeed, so here is a glossary of terms to help you navigate the intricacies of their world.

Page 23, panel 2: **Iga**

Iga is a region on the island of Kyushu, and also the name of the famous ninja clan that originated there. Another area famous for its ninjas is Koga, in the Shiga prefecture on Honshu. Many books claim that these two ninja clans were mortal enemies, but in reality inter-ninja relations were not as bad as stories paint them.

Page 29: **Othello**

Although it is called Othello in Japan, it is usually known in the States as *Reversi*. *Reversi* actually originated as a German game in the late 1800s, but the modern rule set, which is the universal set being used presently, originated in Japan.

Page 34, panel 4: **Hanzo Yasunaga**

Hanzo Yasunaga was the founder of the Iga clan. He left Iga along with some of the clan members to work for a warlord. It is said that he was a ninja, but much of his life remains a mystery. His full name was Hattori Hanzo Yasunaga.

Page 50, panel 2: **Crossing over**

This scene is known as *sonzu no kawa*. In Japanese folklore, people who are dying are first sent to this place. Crossing the river means that you are crossing into the next world. It is very similar to the "River Styx" in Greek mythology.

Page 116, panel 2: **Rice ball**

Onigiri, or rice balls, are put in a traditional Japanese packed lunch. Rice is rolled up into a ball-like shape with salty fillings, and is often wrapped in seaweed.

Page 9, panel 3: **Tale of Genji**

The *Tale of Genji* is a novel that was written in the Heian period (784-1185) about a handsome man and his love affairs at court.

Page 9, panel 4: **Lady Murasaki**

Lady Murasaki is the narrator of the tale and Genji's true love. She is taken by Genji at a young age and raised by him to be his ideal wife. She becomes his unofficial second wife and remains his favorite until her death.

Page 18, panel 3: **Rifle**

These rifles are matchlock rifles, which were introduced to Japan by Portuguese and Spanish sailors in 1545. In the original Japanese script, the rifles are called *kongoshimo*, which is the place where Japanese gunsmiths adapted the European design to suit their own needs.

Page 20, panel 1: **Kami no Hanzou**

The term *kami* means "the Upper," and can refer to social status. However, since Hanzou is a member of a branch family, it is very unlikely that his status is higher than that of the head of the entire clan, Hanzo. The term *kami no* can also refer to a geographic location in relation to an important city center, such as the capital. Hanzou is from Okazaki, which is closer to Edo than Hanzo's home in Segachi.



I visited a Kouga-style Ninja House for reference, which a pharmaceutical company holds in trust. I learned from them that jobs for ninjas became scarce as Japan gradually became peaceful, so many ninja used their pharmaceutical skills to make a living in medicine. I was quite moved to find out that ninja skills changed with the times, and are still among us today.

—Rinko Ueda

Rinko Ueda is from Nara prefecture. She enjoys listening to the radio, drama CDs, and Rakugo comedy performances. Her works include *Ryo*, a series based on the legend of Gojo Bridge, *Home*, a story about love crossing national boundaries, and *Tail of the Moon (Tsuki no Shippo)*, a romantic ninja comedy.